

May 17, 1995

LB 99, 283, 519, 860A  
LR 216-225

CLERK: 25 ayes, 3 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 519.

SPEAKER WITHEM: LB 519 advances. Mr. Clerk, do you have any items for the record?

CLERK: Mr. President, I do, thank you. Senator Wickersham would like to print amendments to LB 99. A new A bill, LB 860A by Senator Wehrbein. (Read for the first time by title.) Mr. President, study resolutions, LR 216-217, be referred to the Executive Board. LR 218 (Read brief explanation). That will be laid over. LR 219-225 are all study resolutions, Mr. President, all will be referred to the Executive Board. That's all that I have, thank you. (See pages 2283-89 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Mr. Clerk, LB 283.

CLERK: Mr. President, 283, a bill introduced by Senator Wehrbein. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 10 of this year. At that time it was referred to the Judiciary Committee. The bill was advanced to General File. I have committee amendments pending by the Judiciary Committee, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Lindsay, on the committee amendments.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members, LB 283 is a bill that changes the law dealing with protection of police animals. The bill was heard in committee. Judiciary Committee added a proposed amendment which eliminated the new offense that would have been created. What it did was enhanced the penalty under the cruelty to animals statute rather than creating an entirely new offense which would have been in offense of obstructing a police animal. So it makes it clear though that harassment of a police animal, or it does enhance the offense itself, but it does so under the cruelty to animals statute rather than putting it up at a level equal to an assault on a police officer or similar to an assault on a police officer. The thought being that police officers are certainly at a...protection of police officers ought to be at a level higher than protection of a police animal. Certainly we value the officer's life much more so than the police animal, however, it does also recognize that the police animal does also need to be